



Queen of the 1959 Wasatch County Centennial was Marion Johnson, center. Her attendants were Beverly Seiter, left and Joan Ritchie, right.

"Sweetheart of Yesteryears," with her attendants Elizabeth Moulton and Alice Thacker. "Miss Wasatch of 1959" was Marion Johnson, with attendants Joan Ritchie and Beverly Seiter. "Miss Dairy Princess" was Connie North, with attendants Mary Alder, Linda McGuire and Connie Pope.

Parades, band concerts, displays, exhibits, carnival rides and attractions, beard growing contests, suppers, luncheons and barbeques, flower shows and entertainment programs were all combined to make the 100th birthday party a celebration long to be remembered. Chairmen of the centennial event were Arvel and Dove McAfee.

Another cultural endeavor promoted by the county commission was the establishment of a county library. The first action on a library came April 10, 1919, when money was approved and a board of directors appointed.

The library was to be located in Heber City, and quarters were selected above the Heber Mercantile Company. Members of the first board of directors included John M. Ritchie, John A. Fortie, Storm McDonald, Nellie C. DeGraft and Ida Wootton. A tax levy not to exceed one mill on each dollar of taxable property in the county was approved to be used in establishing and maintaining the library. All other efforts to establish a library, such as the Heber City Library in 1907 and the early Literary Club Library, were merged with the county library when it was established.



Beard growing was a popular contest during the 1959 County Centennial Celebration. Some of the prize "crops" are shown here on their owners, left to right, seated: Jack Moulton, Reg Tadd, Willis Clyde, Ray Kohler and Charles McPhie; and standing, left to right, Glen Jensen, Albert Winterrose, Grant Giles, Ken Ryan, Leslie McPhie, Stacey Murdock and Farrell Reynolds.

Quarters above the mercantile store were used for a short time and then the library was moved to part of the Heber Merc that had been occupied by the C. W. & M. Company. It was there until 1937 when fire destroyed the building and the entire library, except for books on loan at the time.

Temporary quarters were given to the library in the L.D.S. Seminary Building near Wasatch High School, and investigations were started to find another site. A building at the site of the present Ideal Cafe was rented, and then on August 30, 1938, a new building was begun as a cooperative venture with the county and the Works Progress Administration. Gronamon & Son, Contractors of Provo received the bid for construction for \$21,990. The completed building was accepted on October 6, 1939. The library continued its growth in new quarters under the able direction of Mrs. Nellie C. DeGraft.

Another library milestone came in 1952 when the library board and the Wasatch County Board of Education signed an agreement on May 14, to consolidate the facilities, books, financial resources and personnel of the county and school libraries. The joint administration, which improved services and facilities for both groups, has continued from September, 1952 to the present time. The capable, efficient librarian is Clyde Muir.